

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01110 010821Z
ACTION NODS-00

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AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY GABORONE

S E C R E T LUSAKA 1110

EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS

LAGOS FOR PRESIDENTIAL PARTY, AMBASSADOR YOUNG AND DICK MOOSE

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1,3
TAGS: ZA, US, RH, PDEV
SUBJ: RHODESIA: KAUNDA MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT CARTER

WHILE DELIVERING TO PRESIDENTIAL ASSISTANT MARK CHONA PRESIDENT
CARTER'S LETTER TO PRESIDENT KAUNDA I WAS GIVEN THE FOLLOWING
NEW KAUNDA-CARTER LETTER. AN ACCOUNT OF THE VERY POSITIVE
CONVERSATION ON BOTH RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA WHICH ENSUED FOLLOWS
BY SEPTTEL.

BEGIN TEXT

DEAR MR PRESIDENT;

YOU WILL BE NOW HAVE HEARD FROM PRESIDENT NYERERE AS CHAIRMAN
OF OUR RECENT FRONTLINE SUMMIT IN DAR-ES-SALAAM AS WELL AS FROM
AMBASSADOR YOUNG WITH WHOM I HAD VERY FRUITFUL DISCUSSIONS

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REGARDING THE DECISION WE MADE ON THE RHODESIAN ISSUE. I
SIMPLY WANT YOU TO KNOW, ONCE AGAIN THAT WE SUPPORT THE CALL
FOR THE CONVENING OF THE CONFERENCE IN WHICH ALL THE PARTIES
TO THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON ZIMBABWE WILL PARTICIPATE. WE BELIEVE
THAT THE AGENDA OF THAT CONFERENCE MUST BE THE ANGLO-AMERICAN
PROPOSALS TO WHICH WE HAVE REAFFIRMED OUR COMMITMENT AS A BASIS
FOR NEGOTIATIONS TO ACHIEVE MAJORITY RULE AND INDEPENDENCE

FOR ZIMBABWE.

WE AGREE THAT SOME PROGRESS WAS MADE IN MALTA. WE, THEREFORE, SUPPORT THE PROPOSAL FOR THE IMMEDIATE RESUMPTION OF THE MALTA TALKS.

WE HAVE LOOKED AT THE NUMBER OF PROBLEMS WHICH HAVE BEDEVILLED THE NEGOTIATIONS ON THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS. THE FIRST IS THE POWERS OF THE RESIDENT COMMISSIONER. WE BELIEVE THAT IT IS NOW POSSIBLE TO FIND A FORMULA WHICH IS BASED ON POWER-SHARING BUT WHICH ALSO RECOGNISES THAT BRITAIN IS THE COLONIAL POWER IN SOUTHERN RHODESIA.

ANOTHER PROBLEM IS THE UNITED NATIONS PARTICIPATION. AN IMPRESSION APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN GIVEN THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT IS OPPOSED TO THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING FORCE. I BELIEVE THAT AGREEMENT IS POSSIBLE ON THIS ISSUE.

THE REAL PROBLEM IS THE ILLEGAL GOVERNMENT IN RHODESIA. NOW, WE HAVE THE SUPPORT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL, THE O.A.U. AND THE FRONTLINE STATES ON THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN BRITAIN AND AMERICA ON ONE HAND AND THE PATRIOTIC FRONT ON THE OTHER. THESE NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE WIDENED TO INCLUDE THE NEWLY ESTABLISHED ILLEGAL REGIME IN SALISBURY. WE SHOULD NOT PRESS THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TO ACCEPT THE TERMS OF THE ILLEGAL REGIME.

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FOR THIS REASON, I URGE AGAIN THAT WE RECOGNISE WHO IS INSTRANSIGNET IN THE CONFLICT. WE BELIEVE THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT TOGETHER WITH FRONTLINE STATES ARE WITH BRITAIN AND THE UNITED STATES AND THAT THE REAL PROBLEM REMAINS THE SMITH REGIME WHICH NOW INCORPORATES THE BLACK SIGNATORIES TO THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT. YOU WOULD CERTAINLY NEED TO BE VERY FIRM WITH IAN SMITH AND THE CO-SIGNATORIES TO THE SALISBURY AGREEMENT IN ORDER TO GUARANTEE SUCCESS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS.

I AM SURE YOU ALSO KNOW THAT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT INSISTS THAT THE ISSUE OF MILITARY PROBLEMS PARTICULARLY RELATING TO CEASE-FIRE DURING TRANSITION SHOULD BE BETWEEN THE PATRIOTIC FRONT AND THE SMITH REGIME. THIS NOW RAISES NO PROBLEM AS PRESUMABLY THE SALISBURY GROUP WILL BE REGARDED AS ONE DELEGATION. THE FULL CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE IS A MATTER WHICH IS OPEN TO ALL POLITICAL PARTIES IN ZIMBABWE INCLUDING THOSE WHO DID NOT ATTEND THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IF THEY WISH TO PARTICIPATE.

IN THE MEANTIME, WE VERY MUCH WELCOME THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY YOUR GOVERNMENT THAT YOU REGARD THE NEW GOVERNMENT IN SALISBURY AS ILLEGAL AS THE PREVIOUS REGIME.

AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE, I REMAIN OF THE FIRM BELIEF THAT THE
RESOLUTION OF THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM AS OF THE NAMIBIAN PROBLEM
DEPENDS ENTIRELY ON YOU, MR. PRESIDENT. I SAY THIS FROM BITTER
EXPERIENCE OF DEALING WITH THE VARIOUS PARTIES TO THE CONFLICT
IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. I HAVE PUBLICLY SAID AMERICA MUST TAKE THE
FRONT SEAT IN ENDING THE WAR IN ZIMBABWE. IN SAYING SO I GIVE
YOU MY VOTE OF CONFIDENCE. I HAVE GREAT RESPECT FOR BRITAIN,
BUT IT IS INCREASINGLY BECOMING CLEARER THAT BRITAIN, IF
LEFT TO HER OWN DEVICES, WOULD ACCEPT ANY SOLUTION EVEN IF
IT DOES NOT RESOLVE THE CONFLICT AS LONG AS IT ABSOLVES HER
OF THE PROBLEM.

I, THEREFORE, URGE YOU TO BE EVEN MORE DECISIVE IN DEALING WITH
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IAN SMITH NOW THAT WE ARE TOGETHER FIRMLY IN GETTING A FORWARD
MOVEMENT IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS.

I WISH YOU SUCCESS IN YOUR CURRENT MISSION. I HONESTLY BELIEVE
THAT WE ARE VERY CLOSE TO ACHIEVING PEACE AND PROSPERITY WITH
JUSTICE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

AS ALWAYS,

KENNETH D. KAUNDA
PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ZAMBIA

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